

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 13-106

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** Wallow Fire Riparian Exclosure Renovations

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region 1 / GMUs 1 & 27

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**

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**Was the project presented to the LHPC?**  
YES[X] NO[]

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[] NO[X]

**If Yes, was it funded?** YES[] NO[] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

**Project Type:** Fence Construction

**Brief Project Summary:** This project is to reestablish 17 riparian exclosures that were impacted to varying degrees by the 2011 Wallow Fire. These are located on the Alpine Ranger District of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. Some of these were initially funded by Knutsen-Vandenberg funds from timber sales to benefit habitat for wildlife (these funds are not available for repair or maintenance).

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:** Elk, Mule Deer and Antelope

**Implementation Schedule** (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: Spring/Summer 2014

Project End Date: Fall 2014

**Environmental Compliance:**

NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[X]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[] No[] N/A[X]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:**

**\$ 101,000**

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:**

**\$**

**Total Project Costs:**

**\$ 101,000**

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):

Elizabeth Humphrey

**Address:**

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests  
30 S. Chiricahua Drive  
Springerville, AZ 85938

**E-mail:**

ehumphrey@fs.fed.us

**Telephone:** 9283336265

**Date:** 8/29/2013

**AGFD Contact and Phone No.** (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):

**Project has been coordinated with:**

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

Springs and riparian streams often receive heavy use by livestock. Some are additionally impacted by other ungulates. In order to continue to protect key spring and riparian sites from livestock use and, in some instances, other impacts, we proposed to contract crews to reestablish 14 livestock and 3 wildlife exclosures. Species benefitted include large game animals as well as shrews, voles, grouse, nesting waterfowl, and even macroinvertebrates, all of which can be prey for and sustain larger animals. In order to limit expenses, we will salvage exclosure materials that still have integrity and replace the old materials. Wildlife friendly smooth-strand wire will be used on livestock exclosures. Woven wire or wire panels (raised 15” off the ground to assure turkey and other small wildlife passage) will be used on the wildlife exclosures. Cable and plank flood gates will be installed at creek crossings. Dead trees hazardous to the exclosure fence will be removed by chainsaw, bucked, piled and left on-site for non-riparian small mammal habitat.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

-Provide spring and riparian stabilization and recovery.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

Utilize a contracted crew to rebuild each exclosure, install flood gates at creek crossings and chainsaw hazardous trees around exclosure perimeter.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Alpine Ranger District on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests; AZGFD Region 1, GMU 1 & 27.

**LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):**

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner’s name)

- Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, Alpine Ranger District

*IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?*

YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:** Mixed-conifer and Ponderosa Pine forests, high alpine riparian meadow

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**Special Big Game License Tag Funds

14 Livestock exclosure totaling approximately 3.5 miles of fence

(includes labor and materials)

\$51,000

3 Wildlife exclosures (includes labor and materials)

\$50,000

